



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Prior Art
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FEB 25 2001
TC 3700 MAIL ROOM

APPLICANTS: Bennarsten et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/733,064 GROUP ART UNIT: 3761

FILED: December 11, 2000

TITLE: "HIGH FREQUENCY OSCILLATOR VENTILATOR"

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,

Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants request that citation and examination of the following documents be made during the course of examination of the above-referenced application for United States Letters Patent.

AA United States Patent No. 5,092,326

AB United States Patent No. 4,821,709

AL German OS 34 17 954

EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

Each of the above references were cited in a Search Report rendered by the Swedish Patent Office during examination proceedings for the Swedish application corresponding to the present United States application. A copy of the Swedish Search Report is submitted herewith.

An English translation of Reference AL is not readily available to the Applicants. Reference AL discloses a high/super high frequency oscillator ventilator 41 having a known type of piston arrangement (25/26) for introducing pressure oscillations into a column of gas, which is in communication with the lungs of a patient. These oscillations alternatingly supply breathing gas to the lungs, and actively extract at least the supplied

volume of gas from the lungs. Fresh gas from a supply line continuously flows into the column of gas from a humidifier via an inlet 52 and an outlet 53. This provides a bias flow at an angle to the direction of oscillation of the column of gas. The bias pressure is set by an expiration valve 5, which is connected to an outlet chamber 48. The outlet chamber 48 has an outlet across which gas from the supply line 32 is directed, from a branch 33 and a nozzle 50, to reduce the outlet pressure. This reduction enables a patient to exhale into a reduced pressure without having to reduce the pressure within the lungs.

Copies of each of the above references together with Form 1449 are submitted herewith.

As of the date of mailing of this Information Disclosure Statement, a first Office Action on the merits has not been received in connection with this application, and therefore, this Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), and no fee is necessary.

All claims of the application are submitted to be patentable over the teachings of the above references, taken singly or in combination. Early consideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

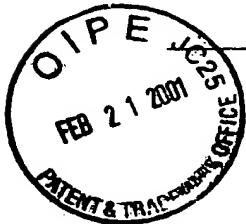
Submitted by,

Steven A. Noll (Reg. 28,982)

SCHIFF, HARDIN & WAITE
CUSTOMER NO. 26574
Patent Department
6600 Sears Tower
233 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: 312/258-5790
Attorneys for Applicants.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 19, 2001.



Steven H. Noll

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